financial year under the Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP). The modalities for implementing the APDP Scheme are being finalised by the planning Commission in consultation with the Ministry of Power.

**Rise in crime due to infiltration**

†*460. PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the reaction of Government on the news-item captioned Sakht Qanoono Ke Karan Pak Nahin Jaate Bangladeshi appearing in the "Dainik Jagaran' dated 10th March, 2000; and

(b) the steps Government are contemplating to take in order to check incidents of prostitution and other crimes which are on the rise due to foreign infiltrators?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) In view of the long and porous border with Bangladesh and also on account of various push and pull factors, many Bangladeshis have managed to sneak into various parts of the country. Due to ethnic and linguistic similarities, they are able to mingle easily with the local population.

As per available reports, some Bangladeshi immigrants cross over to Pakistan in search of better livelihood. About 3846 Bangladeshi infiltrators have been apprehended along the Indo-Pak border since 1997 (till March 2000).

Various measures have been taken to check infiltration. These include, *inter alia,* construction of border roads, border fencing, raising of additional battalions of the Border Security Force, intensification of patrolling along the border, increase in the number of outpost towers, provision of surveillance equipment including night vision devices, etc. The matter has also been taken up with the Government of Bangladesh at various levels from time to time. There are standing instructions to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to detect and deport foreigners staying illegally.

(b) Instructions have been issued to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to deal firmly with those found violating the law of the land.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.